



Lazy Dungeon Master



Volume 2 - Information is
Important. This is Serious.

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Chapter 14 - Using DP to Create a Golem

“And so, I think I’ll learn [Create Golem].”

What I had my eye on was the [Create Golem] magic.

Magic that makes a Golem... yeah, isn’t that good, wouldn’t it be easier to have the Golem work?

“Eeh, there’s not a magic that just makes a Golem. It’s better to just summon a Golem monster with DP. Though it’s 100 DP for one, it’s strong.”

“In other words, [Create Golem] pays for itself after summoning a hundred of them... then everything after that would be the same as being free.”

“That’s amazing!”

Hmm, would I summon that many? Or can you even summon things at no cost? Since I have no clue how good a Golem’s performance is, I don’t really know if I would really need one hundred of them.

Though to be blunt, there’s a reason I want to make one... but I’ll keep that quiet.

“So without further ado, I order the scroll for [Create Golem]... ah, it came out.”

In exchange for 10000 DP when I selected the scroll for [Create Golem], a scroll of parchment bound by a string appeared.

Let’s not worry about the leftover DP suddenly becoming less than a third of what it was...

I’ll use it immediately. Unfastening the string, I looked at its contents.

[Create Golem] was written along the left side, followed by some kind of magic formation.

“... Hey, how am I supposed to use this?”

“Just put some magical power into the magic formation.”

When Rokuko said that, I tried out pouring magical power onto it. It felt

like the life magic's [Cleanup].

I sensed my body's magical power rush from my hands into the magic formation in them. It felt like I grew a little weaker.

As the magical power flowed from my hands onto the magic formation, the lines of the formation spun.

I get it... so this is what it feels like when magical power is drained away.

Well, I wonder how much of it's enough? For now I'll just pour more into it. The formation accelerated as I continued to fill it with magical power.

Did it reach a critical point? The magic formation's resistance vanished with a bang, magical power raining down on me.

As soon as I was showered by the rain of magical power, I felt the structure of the magic formation embed itself in me.

No, it probably really was embedded in me. It felt like I could already use [Create Golem].

As for the scroll... the lines representing the magic formation burned, disappearing in flames.

"... Heeh, it's the first time I've seen something like that. So that's what happens when you use a magic scroll."

"Eh-? Rokuko, you haven't used a scroll?"

"No way, too expensive."

"Then how did you know how to use it...?"

"Fufun, because it's common sense... Ane-sama No. 89 taught me a bit though."

I immediately tried out using [Create Golem].

The required materials were what was needed to make the Golem's body and magical power. I knew that. Probably due to the scroll's effect.

Stone was needed for a Stone Golem. Clay was needed for a Clay Golem. The amount of magical power changed as needed.

Should I dig up the clay from outside the master room? Standing up... I remembered Meat. She was crouching idle in the corner of the room with her arms holding her knees.

Yeah, I don't have to do it. Let's make use of it.

"... Alright, Meat, please go out and dig some clay from a bit outside the cave. This much is fine."

"Y-es. Goshujin-sama."

I ordered Meat to bring back about a soccer ball's worth.

I bought a shovel (5 DP) since she tried going outside without anything. When I passed it to Meat, it felt like her face looked a bit surprised. Her expression was dead as usual....

A little while later, Meat came back with the shovel and clay. Holding it with her small body, it looked heavy. Rather, it probably really was heavy for a child.

Yeah, she can come and go from the master room now.

"Alright, good job. Have a rest."

"Ah, uu."

I praised her while patting her head. Incidentally, I used [Cleanup] on her since she was dirty from carrying the clay with her bare arms.

Though, she said something like, "hyafu-!" I wonder if having [Cleanup] used on you is ticklish?

Now I want to try it on Rokuko.

"Alright, without further ado... [Create Golem]!"

I poured magical power into the lump of clay. Making the circuits with my magical power, it took the shape of a person.

Likely due to the effects of the scroll, the image of a Golem floated in my head... though it was quite small compared to it, it should be fine. Maybe. Surely. Probably. It'll work out somehow.

Following the process in my mind, I kneaded the clay, filling with more

magical power.

I reproduced a small Golem with a human form as the template.

Continuing to pour more magical power into it for around ten minutes, the thirty centimeter tall Clay Golem (mini) was completed.

“Wow, that’s... a Golem?”

“What’s with the question!?”

“But aren’t Golems normally bigger than adult humans!? I doubt whether or not it’s even worth making a hundred of these.”

“No, though I’m bothered that I don’t know what to say a normal one is... well, it should be fine if I make ten thousand or so of them.”

For now it looks like the Golems moves when instructed. I immediately decided to have it expand the cave. It’d be saving DP.

Displaying the map, I ordered it to steadily dig towards the separated cave with the goblin room. The freshly made Clay Golem (mini) left the master room without even a shovel.

“Adaptable Golems really don’t exist. It’d be better if it used a shovel to dig through the wall.”

“No no what are you talking about. Right now, I’m impressed by the Golem’s possibilities.”

Rokuko’s common sense said that [Golems can’t do anything complex] as though it were unthinkable.

For example, take [Dig a hole]. I think that it being able to do something like dig a hole was already plenty complex. If you tried to do the same thing in modern Japan, it wouldn’t be able to happen without you teaching it the movements for its body to dig a hole.

The location too, if you told it to [Go there] in modern Japan, you would have to teach it how to move its feet. And if it fell it wouldn’t be able to stand up on its own, or if it walked into an obstacle en route it would continue doing so.

But I just said [Go there and dig through the wall]. Magic is amazing. I'm impressed.

However, using magic is pretty tiring... alright, let's go to sleep.

Ah, right. Let's make Meat into a hug pillow. I feel like I got her for that reason... no, don't be afraid. It's alright since I won't do anything lewd you know? Yeah, she isn't wearing knee socks or anything today, it's better to foster more mutual trust after all...

*

Well, I'll say one thing.

People aren't suitable to be pillows.

Though Meat was turned into a hug pillow... oh, I didn't undress her of course. Yeah, I just turned her into a hug pillow.

It was good at first.

Silky smooth skin and her hair smelled kind of good.

But the problem occurred after a while.

It was hot. Human skin is hot. Yeah, not even for winter. It was a heat to warm each other in a snowy mountain. I mean, I'd heard children had a higher temperature to begin with... while on the subject, dogs also have a higher body temperature than humans. Thus, the little dog eared girl naturally had a high temperature.

Later, when I started to think the sound of her breathing was getting noisy, Meat was on the verge of suffocating in the futon.

Right, I was dumb. It's dangerous if her head isn't properly outside of it. I rushed to get her head out of the futon.

Now her face was right in front of me. Slightly opened erotic lips, tender cheeks red from lack of oxygen... no! I'm not a lolicon! I'm not a lolicon okay!?

Since her breath was ticklish, I faced the opposite direction. Not because of my heart pounding, it's because her breath was being ticklish... now the

back of my hair was being tickled. Uoooh, come on.

Since there was no other choice, I lowered her head and embraced her again. I lowered the edge of the covers so that she wouldn't suffocate in the futon this time. Even the heat improved with that.

It finally felt just right and I could get to sleep.

But there was still a problem. It was a pretty big one too.

The problem was that I couldn't move the hug pillow. Though you had no choice but to push aside the pillows if you had to move, the slave, Meat, couldn't do something like that. The result—

She is peeing...!

No, that's my fault. I'm in the wrong here. Thinking that, I got up soaked.

Meat was flustered and crying into her arms.

I immediately comforted her and used [Cleanup] on her, the bed, and I...

Yeah, I was in the wrong. Please push me away if you have to go to the restroom from now on.

Oi oi, here's a hamburger! It's delicious you know! So please don't cry, I know I was in the wrong here!

Chapter 15 - The Potential of a Golem

“Eeh, so let’s begin the session of Kehma’s excitement towards bathing in Meat-chan’s pee-pee...”

“Wait a sec. That’s a very spiteful interpretation of what happened. It was an accident, Judge.

As for the matter of peeing being leaked to Rokuko, the dungeon master ordered her to be quiet about it.

Since she instantly quieted down, he decided to make more Golems today.

“Meat, bring me a bit of clay. The same amount as yesterday.”

“Yes.”

So, Meat remembered how to leave the master room and left holding the shovel.

Which reminds me, I wonder how much work the Clay Golem (mini) got done?

... Right, there was something to confirm first.

“Hmm, let’s see here...”

Bringing out the dungeon surveillance monitor from the menu, he checked the room the Golem was ordered to dig through. The Clay Golem (mini) was desperately scratching the wall. How praiseworthy. But wouldn’t it not advance at all like that? The Clay Golem’s hands aren’t strong enough for the surface rock of the wall.

I was thoughtless. It’s no good without a pickax huh...

“Hmm, it’ll continue on as is endlessly unless you tell it to do something.”

“How long will it continue to work for?”

“Eh? Well, probably until its mana expires right? It’s a golem after all. Though because it’s in the dungeon where mana gathers thickly, it’ll never stop you know?”

That's amazing, that it doesn't have any maintenance costs is seriously amazing.

I nearly fainted at how much its performance exceeded my expectations. Wouldn't it be fine even if I just leave everything to the Golem and go to sleep?

"No no Kehma, the Golem can't work decently. It isn't even digging a hole though you told it to dig one, check it out."

"Hm?"

I looked at what Rokuko pointed to on the monitor. Yeah, the Clay Golem (mini) is scratching the wall... huh?

Looking closely, something felt out of place. The Clay Golem (mini) was clawing at the wall.

However, it's hands were wearing out. Using its hands to grate against the stone wall damaged them, but it foolishly didn't stop digging. It did nothing but continue trying to dig.

"That's awful..."

"Right? Golems are stupid you know. I don't need to say it, but it won't do anything else. So it will continue trying to dig a hole even if it can't."

Yeah, awful. That is awful.

However, I'm thinking of something very different than what Rokuko is.

I couldn't stop myself from grinning.

For now I'll tell the golem to return and wait on standby temporarily. I'll fix its hands.

"I-I'm back..."

Meat returned, carrying the clay and breathing heavily.

"Welcome back Meat. Good job, excellent... now then, time for an experiment."

Since Meat brought the lump of clay, he accepted it and used [Cleanup] while patting her head.

Sorry it was simple, but I want to confirm something for a bit now.

While thinking that, I used the [Wow] magic, Create Golem.

I poured in magical power while kneading the clay.

*

“... Well, is it finished?”

“What, this?”

I created a Golem the size of my palm that ‘only’ had three arms of different lengths.

Inserting a shaft into the center of a palm-sized bowl-like container, it was a Golem with three needle-like arms stretching out from the axis.

“No no no, how is this a Golem? No way, eh, what’s with its shape?”

“It’s a [Clock], a [Clock].”

Right, this is a [Golem Clock]. After assigning numbers to each of the three arms, I ordered each of them with [One rotation every sixty seconds] to the first arm, [One rotation every sixty minutes] to the second arm, and [one rotation every twelve hours] to the third arm.

In other words, they were the second hand, the minute hand, and the hour hand. It turned into a clock that would keep working so long as its mana continued.

... Adjusting the time was a hassle though.

By the way, when I realized that the hands didn’t even need a normal shape to begin with, they turned into needle-shaped arms right away. Though the clock was entirely clay, you wouldn’t think it was a Golem at a glance.

“A-a Golem with a shape like that... Wooow, Kehma, you don’t follow common sense.”

“What are you talking about after summoning me from another world? How the heck would I know this world’s common sense?”

Even so, it was surprisingly easy to make a modified Golem.

Moreover, since it was just arms without almost any joints, or maybe thanks to excluding the function to process vague orders, I used considerably less magical power. Feels like around tenth of what the Clay Golem (mini) used?

“Well, what now? If you wanted to see the time you could look at the menu you know? You didn’t even need something like this.”

Now that I think about it, the dungeon master could make the [Menu] display the time...

“... I’ll give it to Meat. Yep, I only made this for the sake of experimenting anyways. Since I learned from it it’s not particularly useless.”

For that reason, I gave the [Golem Clock] to Meat as a gift.

And, though I noticed it... now that I think about it, Meat was still barefoot and wearing rags for clothing. Oops.

I immediately spent DP for [Cheap Clothing (Dress: 8 DP)] and [Cheap Shoes (For Children: 10 DP)], as well as [Knee Socks (White: 70 DP)].

Then, when I noticed Meat didn’t have ‘them’ on when I saw her change, I quickly bought [Girl’s Underwear (20 DP)]. That was dangerous.

Though it took a bit of DP, I got another set.

It wasn’t a problem having one set of clothing including underwear but it helped.

Their materials weren’t bad, I wanted to deck her out with cute things eventually when there was a lot more DP though. Ah, Rokuko too.

... Or rather, I wonder. I feel like knee socks arbitrarily improved her somehow.

She’s already worth about three and a half goblins. Is she a luxury good?

I hung the [Golem Clock] around her neck using a [String (5 DP)].

When I said I was giving it to her, she looked at the [Golem Clock] motionlessly.

Do you like it? Though I thought that, she didn’t know what kind of thing it

was.

Right, she was a slave, she probably doesn't know about a lot of things... yep, I'm going to start teaching Meat various things starting tomorrow. But Rokuko—

Wait, rather, what is Rokuko even doing? Is she doing anything? Let's change that a bit. She'll do it instead of me.

... That won't work. She can't see anything but the future of her Goblin Paradise.

*

I mended the hand of the Clay Golem (mini).

I turned one of its hands into the form of a shovel made of stone since it was specially made. It was pretty easy after giving it a go. After changing the shape of the clay and pouring enough magical power into the stone, it quickly took the shape of a shovel.

... Revised Clay Golem (mini), Ver. Shovel Hand!

It made sense that the clay required less magical power to process than the stone. If it was a human-sized Golem, it'd probably be fine to just give it a pickaxe if the Golem was made from clay from the start.

After experimenting with this Clay Golem (mini) as a prototype goes well for a while, I'll probably make a human sized version of it. Though it was long and tedious to call it Clay Golem (mini) each time, I didn't know if it was even a Clay Golem anymore since its hand wasn't made of clay anymore.

So I decided to name it. Since it was a Golem made for trial purposes, an experimentation-like name would be good.

"Alright, you are Tester. Tester is your name. Got it?"

Tester, formerly known as Clay Golem (mini), understood what I said and nodded.

I then ordered Tester to fetch clay from outside of the cave again.

It'll probably come back with about a basketball's worth of clay. I wonder

if it would bring enough materials back before I wake up from sleeping?

... It won't stop moving inside the dungeon, but I wonder about how long it'll last outside of it? I should look into that.

Chapter 16 - The Potential of a Golem (2)

By the way, Tester brought a considerable amount of clay back while he slept.

However, it wasn't able to return after getting itself stuck in the hole it was digging, stopping its movements. It seemed to have ran out of mana.

The Golem wouldn't resume moving until magical power was poured into it. Normally, it could move for about one hour according to the knowledge from [Create Golem].

"How long was it moving outside the dungeon?"

"Mmm, about an hour. Though the monster Golem would have been able to move longer than that."

He wondered what other information there was for [Create Golem]. Taking out the information to remember, there was one that said [When embedding a magic stone, it will continue longer].

However, there wasn't the vital information that said what a [Magic Stone] was at all.

"Rokuko, what's a magic stone?"

"Eh? A magic stone is, umm, it's a stone packed full of mana. Though you can often get them from monsters... ah, come to think of it although monster Golems have magic stones, the Golem Kehma made doesn't have one?"

It doesn't...

In other words, it's like a battery for a Golem. Although there's no problem since mana fills the dungeon, it looks like it can't move much outside since it doesn't have a magic stone.

Fortunately, Tester was quickly retrieved by Meat. The hole the Golem couldn't get out of was about thirty centimeters. Even a child could do it. There was no choice but to drag it out. It was a lump of clay about the size of a basketball, so it must have been heavy... Yep, isn't this dogear girl strong?

Tester began to move once it entered the dungeon's domain. Since it tried to go dig the hole again, it was stopped and ordered to return with Meat.

It seemed that orders persisted even if it stopped operating. That information was a good harvest. As you'd expect of Tester.

"So with that, let's assume that stone and soil will be collected with Golems from now on... I want a magic stone..."

"A magic stone? Why not buy it with DP?"

"... Crap, I didn't think of that. I didn't notice until Rokuko said something, but am I an idiot...? What a shock."

"What does that mean!?"

He looked at the DP catalog. Magic stones were listed as treasures. The same categories as things like jewelry. Magic stones also had a few grades, the cheapest being 10 DP and the highest being multiple thousands, it varied. For now he bought a cheap magic stone to try a few things out.

"Right, Meat. Can you read and write?"

"... Can, not. It's inexcusable, Goshujin-sama..."

Meat lowered her head apologetically. Yeah, I'm not angry you know? My heart is hurting here.

"I see. Then Rokuko, teach Meat her letters. If you can get her to properly remember them, I'll give you melon bread to eat. Meat too, all-you-can-eat hamburgers if you can memorize them."

"Eh-, all-you-can-eat melon bread!? Got it!"

"A-... are you sure?"

Good good, light returned to Meat's eyes at the mention of hamburgers. Now they feel like eyes that are alive. It seems those dead fish eyes disappeared somewhere. Yep, it's best for children to be lively.

But dog eared girls like meat after all. I wonder if she'd be overjoyed at a steak, I'll see if I can't get one with DP. She might let me caress her feet in gratitude.

Sooner or later, since Meat will need to do various things outside of the cave, I don't want her to remember various things.

Or rather, is it fine for her to stay as a slave at this point...? No, since she might not be able to enter and leave the Master Room if she isn't a slave, there's no need to do something right now.

I wonder if slaves in this world are bound by magic or something? I could see a collar though... well it's fine for now.

Now then, let's create a Golem while Rokuko is teaching Meat her alphabet.

Though I'd usually want to go to sleep soon, there's one thing I prioritize over sleeping.

That's the preparations to sleep soundly.

It's fine to cut down on sleeping time to prepare to sleep soundly!

Yep, sleep is the most important thing in the end.

I exchanged some DP to get a few magic stones and pickaxes to dig.

Though there was still 3500 DP left, it would disappear quickly if I wasted it.

I embed one of the 10 DP magic stones into Tester. I wonder how long it'll be able to move outside the dungeon now... let's have Tester plow the field outside the dungeon. I did a minor change, altering its hand into a hoe.

Adventurers still won't be here for a while either, so it should be safe to work outside.

Then I started making a human-sized Golem this time.

It should be fine if I use the blueprint from Create Golem once...

...

... ..

Ah, there's not enough clay.

Let's make it lightweight by taking out some. This'll save materials.

I embedded it with the cheapest magic stone.

The Golem could move quite energetically.

Its movements were smoother than Tester. I wonder if that's because I took out its insides?

Though Rokuko, who was teaching Meat, was surprised when she looked over, she didn't mind since it was holding a pickaxe to enlarge the cave. "Dig through the cave with this", it was that simple.

Ah, I want to make a Golem entirely out of stone.

The stone that had been dug up by the bandits before was all collected as items since it couldn't be turned into DP.

*

After embedding the 10 DP magic stone into Tester, it was nonchalantly plowing the field even after a day.

Looks like it could still go on. Wonder how long?

The Clay Golem, having a pickaxe, dug five meters into the cave. It was a five meter passage that an adult could go through.

Yep, isn't this a considerably hard worker? I repaired its joints since they were starting to break, sending it back off to dig. This manner was increasing our stone and clay stores. It also happened to extend the cave.

Well, let's immediately make a Stone Golem as well.

Power suit type.

"Hey, Kehma. What... is that?"

"It's an Armor Golem."

"Why is Meat inside the Golem?"

"Well, that's because I wanted her to wear it. Meat, try moving a bit."

"O-okay."

This time he had Meat put on a frame-type Golem, ordering the Golem to assist Meat's movements.

Meat walked, but it didn't look like she felt the weight. Though it didn't seem to be able to follow quick movements, for now it should keep its contents safe from instant death. Don't worry, I don't want to see it.

"It's a little hard to walk, but there's no problems."

"Alright, try hitting the wall."

"Wait up, what are you saying? What's that stone plate?"

"Isn't it a wall?"

Isn't it more authentic to use a Wall Golem made with the same stone as the Golem? I ordered it so that it wouldn't move, but really I didn't order it to do anything other than be a wall. I saved a lot due to its simple structure. I wonder if I could make a brick wall variation of the stone walls.

"I'm, coming.. tei-!"

Doooong! The stone wall shattered brilliantly. Rokuko was incredibly surprised.

Even Meat, the one who hit it, had her eyes open wide.

Since she was firmly wrapped in stone, it shouldn't have hurt, but I wonder if she's alright? That's the most important thing right now. I want it to be safe since I'm also going to use it.

"Alright, good offensive power. I wonder if even fighting would be good with this? Meat, is anything wrong with your legs or feet? Properly let me know if anything serious happens okay?"

"I-I'm alright."

"Good, good. Since it looks like it can move outside with a magic stone embed in it, it'll be good for simple jobs. With a little bit of remodeling it can be hidden under clothes, or maybe the opposite for a full body armor kind of thing... then heading to the human village wouldn't be a problem, probably?"

Let's refer to the recent group of knights for the design. While thinking about it, Rokuko tilted her head to the side and spoke.

“Nn? Kehma, you’re going to the human village?”

“Yeah. I can’t just stay here and do nothing after all... and now that the group of knights tidied up the bandits it should be safe to get there in comparative safety. There’s a need to collect information, so I’ll go as soon as possible... ah, can Dungeon Masters not leave?”

“No, it’s not that they can’t... it’s just, I didn’t think Kehma would be interested in leaving the Master Room.”

Ah, so that was it. I hadn’t left the Master Room since coming to this world at all.

“Well, since the bandits were here... you get it right? They died.”

“Ah... right. There’s no other way.”

I keenly remembered the time when the bandits were here. Well, the bandits were powerful enemies.

... For some reason, I don’t feel anything for them.

They’ve already turned into DP now. It’s fine with that, yep.

Chapter 17 - Magic Sword Golem and Clothes Golem

And so, it's been three days since then. He'd since remodeled Tester into Tester Mk. 2 after examining various things relating to Golems.

A basic Golem... well, it didn't need a proper blueprint for something like a small clock... Since he made various things out of materials like stone, wood, clay, and even materials that didn't have solid shapes such as water and fire, he confirmed a surprising amount of various things.

Since the moment he thought he was able to make a Fire Golem, it burned out and was a failure. Even if he didn't use fire directly, instead igniting a Wood Golem, it would just become charcoal. Or rather, since a Charcoal Golem gets treated as damaged, it's a failure... It'd probably be scary if it clung to an adventurer while burning.

Meanwhile, using water to make an Aqua Golem was surprisingly normal. As far as its appearance was concerned at least.

Though it looked like a proper Golem, things entered inside of its hand when it touched them. It looked like it could be used for something, I wonder what? It looked like fish could be raised inside the Golem. Maybe it could be used instead of a glass tank?

Then there's this working Golem, the Blade Golem.

Created with the 30 DP [Iron Ingot] as its material, it was a sword-model Golem.

Making it with the image of a Japanese sword in mind, it turned into an unexpectedly good weapon.

The blade vibrated when filled with magical power, cutting through logs while sounding like a chainsaw. Though the blade didn't go to high frequencies, it was still a magic sword.

Additionally, there was a gimmick where the blade would forcefully shoot

out, too.

Then there's this second Golem that supports actions through clothing.

In the end, the armor suit-type Golem stood out too much. Since it couldn't do quick and heavy movements easily, I decided to give making a Clothes Golem a go.

It even had gloves to protect the wrists and assist grip strength.

As expected, anything is possible with magic.

Though the fundamental command for the Clothes Golem was to assist movements, I, who haven't even held a sword before, was able to move like a full-fledged soldier after linking with the Blade Golem... With sample movements from the group of knights' and bandits', as well as the ones dragged out from those adventurers. Menu-san is amazing, automatically recording things previously seen by the monitor... High tech. Smart technology.

Well, I could keep up with the movement patterns to some degree, but muscle pains were inevitable since I couldn't keep up with the rapid movements... though it was fine if it just ended at muscle pains... yep, well, I can't fight anything like this, so no more of that.

Since iron was placed at important spots as there was a bit left over after making the sword, it should have a reasonable amount of defense capability.

In extremely bad circumstances, it would run to the cave even if I lost consciousness if I ordered it to [Escape to the cave]. I just want to live in safety. So long as I have my life, I can sleep even if I lose my hands and feet.

"So this is my current strongest equipment. What do you think?"

"... Isn't there something off in your head!?"

Rokuko said whatever she felt like as usual. Its usefulness was obvious.

Ah, was she disappointed I only had enough to prepare for Meat and I?

Sorry Rokuko, it's unfortunate but you're a dungeon core so you're house-sitting and don't get one.

“No, I didn’t say something like that you know!?”

“Yeah, well, if adventurers come only take out five Goblins. I think it’ll probably be okay...”

I wore the Clothes Golem and equipped the Blade Golem.

Meat did the same, but instead of the Blade Golem had a knife-type one.

Just in case, I ordered it to not attack me.

With this, I’m ready time to go to the human settlement whenever.

*

Since she remembered her alphabet to some degree, I gave her a hamburger as a reward. Rokuko was munching on some melon bread, too. Seriously, slow down.

“Ah, that’s right. Hey, Rokuko, is mana and magical power different?”

I asked as I suddenly remembered the question.

When filling a magic stone with magical power, it enters a state where it can sufficiently collect mana. Then was it the same thing? Why are they referred to differently?

“Mmm, basically, magical power is in the bodies of living things and it feels like mana is from the outside. Though they often mix, it’s the same thing. Sometimes monsters have mana in them.”

Don’t give me that ‘mix’. That was sloppy.

“Well, each person’s wavelength of magical power is different. As a rule, magical power is said to have small differences, meaning mana won’t have small differences after mixing, or something like that was said.”

“Eeh, so it’s like a fingerprint. It’s probably something like that.”

“U-umm, that reminds me, Goshujin-sama... won’t, Goshujin-sama, magical power registration?”

“Hmm?”

Meat started speaking.

What was she talking about? Though I thought that, it appeared that I needed to register my magical power on the slave collar Meat was wearing.

Bothersome... however, with that other people won't be able to register so I can't complain, so I decided to register it. It would be bothersome if Meat was stolen.

Huh? Now that I think about it, didn't I take her from her former 'Goshujin-sama', the boss bandit? Though I thought that, it's probably because him dying put her in a freed state. It seems that some generous people free slaves when their owners die. Like that, it's good when slaves come across those kind of people for owners. It seems that some slaves get re-caught by other slave owners and sold back to a slave shop.

"... Is removing the collar no good?"

"It's useless. Death."

The slavery collar was a relatively inexpensive magic tool made to be placed on the neck, but it seems that that the slave would die if they removed the collar by themselves after being contracted. The magic from the contract would kill them if they removed it without permission. Scary! Contract magic is scary!

Then, if the wearer of the collar injured its master, it would strangle them to settle down their rebellious heart. Strict as hell.

Furthermore, the collar could tighten just by the master thinking about it. It could also be used to lightly strangle them when they are called, for example.

And suitably, it costs money to release slaves... yep, troublesome!

"Well, in that case I'll register then... let's deal with troublesome things first."

"Yes, please fill the magic stone in the collar with magical power... umm, then to check if the registration worked properly, please lightly strangle me."

Fill it with magical power to register... Yeah, I felt the path connect. I'm

probably registered with that.

Then, though I was reluctant, I imaged her thin neck be tightly constricted.

“Hu-, e-...!”

“Aah-!? Wai-, release! Release! Stop strangling her ne-!”

I saw the collar tightly strangle her neck. It sunk into her neck.

That isn’t on the level of being light, oi! Stop right now!

... People who use this to call for their slaves are brutes.

“Are you alright!?”

“Hyuu-... Kefu, y-yes, th-thank, you...”

Though Meat, who had been forced to stop breathing, was teary-eyed with red cheeks, she answered while in a bit of a coughing fit.

Yep, I’m honestly sorry.

“Eeh, now I’m, properly, Goshujin-sama’s slave.”

Meat smiled pleasantly.

Eh-. Though this is the first time I’ve seen Meat smile, what’s with this timing?

Chapter 18 - A Human Town for the First Time

“Remember Rokuko, just five Goblins when adventurers come. No more than that. You can eat up to two melon breads from the [Sweet-roll Assortment] per day. [1]

“G-got it. Kehma, you be careful too okay?”

And, like that, we left with Rokuko cave-sitting.

...

Now that I think of it, this is the first time I'll be leaving the master room. When Tester stopped moving for one reason or another while digging I had Meat go retrieve it.

... I wonder if this world doesn't have chemicals harmful to humans in it?

Maybe things like mana and magical power are harmful to human health...

“... You're not going?”

“Y-yeah. We're going. We're going now, so...”

“Let's hurry up and go!”

“I'm not pushing you know? Definitely not pushing you, you know?”

“Eh? Pushing? I got it—”

Hold up, the translation function!? Wooah-!

... Pushed on the back by Rokuko, I left the master room.

Entering the dungeon proper without incident, we appeared in the core room.

“... A-alright, nothing wrong happened right? Phew, scared the crap out of me... wait, come to think of it, can't I use magic and stuff now? Yep.”

“Goshujin-sama, are you alright?”

“Ah, yeah, you? I’m all good.”

“Then let’s hurry up and go... why are you still standing at the entrance?”

No, now that I’m thinking about it, isn’t it bad if the dungeon master leaves from the dungeon after all?

I should think about this some more...

“Ei-”

“What’s with the push!? You’re pushing me!?”

“Eh, yes, I’m pushing you.”

“Why!? Is Translation Function-san overloaded and not working!? Ah-”

My first time(walking)... against my will...—!

...

Yep, nothing happened. Nothing happened as expected.

After I took a serious step, Meat tugged on my clothes.

“Goshujin-sama?”

“A-ah, sorry. Well then, let’s go!”

Just one step towards the forest...

“... Should I push you?”

“Ah, yeah. Please...”

*

Oh come on, what about the safety zone... though I didn’t say that, wouldn’t I be putting my life in danger by going outside? I followed Meat down the mountain road while grumbling about that.

If I had to say why we were going outside, the reason would be for safety. You can’t determine if you’re safe without information, the peace right now might just be temporary so I’m descending to the human village.

Ahh, I don’t want to work.

Of course, thanks to the Clothes Golem, I, who doesn’t exercise at all, can

easily run down the mountain path. It'll properly run after being told [Run to the Sia Township] after all.

However, though I'm just being moved, we had to take several breaks on the way since I got crazy tired... how is Meat alright... wonder how much muscle pain I'll have tomorrow.

Even bringing things like water and food in after considering that we may not arrive in a day, I had Meat carry them after the first break. Rather, she wanted to carry it since that's work for slaves and I didn't refuse. Even though Meat could still actually run while carrying the luggage, I was already at my limit even with the support of the Clothes Golem.

Well, we turned up at the human village after half a day. We didn't come across anything particularly dangerous on the way.

Since the Clothes Golem ran out of mana on the way, I refilled the magic stone with magical power... It's better to make use of magic stones and not be stingy. I can get a replacement when we return.

We arrived at the human village after various things, the Sia Township.

Other than water and food, I brought a lot of money from the dungeon. A portion of what the bandits were hoarding was able to be retrieved when the attack happened.

A stone brick wall about five meters tall enclosed the town, gatekeeper soldiers were standing guard at the entrance gate. I mean, it's pretty huge. Isn't this town more of a city? Wonder how many people live here...

Looking at the map for now, there were gates in the north, south, east, and west. This appears to be the west gate.

"Halt! What business do you have in Sia!"

Approaching the gate, the gatekeeper was being vigilant and called out for us to stop.

I stopped since making trouble would be annoying.

"Ah, sorry. I'm from the country. Do I need to do something to get inside?"

"... Answer the question. What business do you have in Sia?"

“Eeh, I set out from my old way of life to become an adventurer.”

“Hmm... Is that a slave? Is it yours?”

“That’s right, I picked it up by chance.”

“Why did you come at this time?”

“Well, since knights seem to have come by and subjugate some bandits the other day, I thought it’d be a safer journey. I didn’t really come here to do anything. Peace is good... Wait, perhaps, is there something wrong with the time right now? Sorry, a countryman like me doesn’t know of things like that.”

I didn’t lie at all... After looking through the DP catalog and seeing [Lie Detecting Magic Tool (50000 DP)], I decided it would be better to be careful just to make sure. It was half the DP of the [Healing Scroll (100000 DP)], so it could likely appear on the market.

Need to be careful to not say too much.

The country had three residents (one being a dungeon core), and I decided to become an adventurer for information gathering. I picked up Meat in the dungeon, and came across knights on the way (the bandits were in the dungeon) so it became safe.

“Oh, I see. Sorry then... Right now, some higher ups came. They are related to those knights you talked about before.”

“So that’s it then? Work must be hard. Then, can I pass? Or do I need something?”

“Do you have identification? If not, it’ll be five silver coins and one copper coin. One copper coin for the slave. The collar counts as identification for the slave.”

Gah, they need a lot... I confirmed I brought my wallet. It had about eight silver and thirty copper in it. Yep, though it looks like I can afford it, how much money will it cost inside...

“Ah, the silver coins are a security deposit. Since you will get an ID from the guild if you become an adventurer, just come back later and show it...

But I wonder if you have the money to register as an adventurer after leaving the country? It takes three silver to register at the Adventurer's Guild. Three copper is fine if you have a soldier accompany you to the Adventurer's Guild until you can show ID. I'll tell you now, the two copper is the labor cost. We can go immediately since I'm available right now."

Oh, in other words... to save two copper, I can go to the Adventurer's Guild without a guide, register and come back, then ask for the deposit back after showing the ID, then heading back to the Adventurer's Guild... Yeah, bothersome. Better to ask for that.

"It's appreciated. Could you please?"

"Well then, I'll accompany you... Oi, switch watch with me. See you later, I'm off for guide duties."

I paid the four copper.

The soldiers for watch duty alternated and we headed to the Adventurer's Guild accompanied by the soldier.

Two copper for directions was cheap, probably.

... I didn't have gold coins, but I wonder if they exist anyways? How much money would it be worth?

Though there were gold, silver, and copper in the DP catalog's treasures list, it felt like it kept going on for a hundred pages.

Ah, but there's a cart in the main street with a delicious smell. Likely due to the large amount of grilled skewers, it smelled like roasted meat. Wonder what the meat is?

"Oi, I understand your feelings but can you wait until you get your ID? I'm on the job here."

The soldier quickly called out and stopped me when I was staring at the cart.

But this soldier is a good person isn't he. I'll spare his life even if he comes into the dungeon.

Walking like that for a while, we came up to a large building.

A sword, medicine bottle, and a scroll were depicted on a large wooden board hanging prominently from it. It seems that was the sign for the Adventurer's Guild.

The people inside heading in and drinking appeared to be adventurers. To be drinking like that during the day... I wonder if they worked night shifts?

When I went to the counter with the soldier, the receptionist held out a blank registration form. This world didn't use parchment, but rather ordinary paper? Simply well done. Though the blank registration form was written by hand, I wonder if they have printing technology?

"Can you write your name? It's one copper for someone to write for you."

"Yeah... Meat, I'll leave it to you."

"Yes, Goshujin-sama!"

I got Meat to write for me. I can only write in Japanese.

The only thing I couldn't understand was the characters, the translation function took care of the sentences and turned them into Japanese in my head.

Conversely, other people couldn't read sentences I write in Japanese. It was definitely troublesome, though picking up Meat was really good.

Hmm? ... The soldier and the receptionist looked alternately between meat and I.

Eh, what is it? Is a slave that can write unusual or something?

"It's surprising... even though she's such a small child..."

"Eh well, it's because she was taught something useful."

"I-is that so?"

The receptionist gave an off feeling. Perhaps not writing things was no good in various ways?

... Though it might be too late, was my appearance weird for this area?

Meat has black hair so I thought it'd be fine to go, but the bandits had European faces huh...

Though the clothing was pretty much just ordinary clothes.

But it seems that appearance wasn't related to registration.

My name written, the registration was completed.

The cost to register was six silver... yeah, two silver and around thirty copper coins left... it decreased a lot.

"I'll return since I was able to confirm your registration."

"Ah, yeah. Thank you."

"Don't worry about it, it's my job. From now on it'll just be one copper to use the gate."

The soldier went back after verifying the Guild Card.

With this ID, I could also gather intelligence while checking out the commissions.

"Well then, I will explain Guild Ranks."

"Ah, yeah."

Though the ID was finished first, it seemed there was still more to be explained.

Chapter 19 - Extra: Strange Adventurer

Applicant (Soldier's Point of View)

I am a gatekeeper.

I'm someone who can be called a veteran.

I don't mean to boast, but I can tell when a person is suspicious.

While I was standing watch at the gate, a pair of travelers came.

It's a man with black hair and a girl with similarly black hair.

Black hair is unusual around here... I wonder if they're siblings?

... However, the girl's carrying the luggage while the man is empty-handed... no, he has a sword?

Though I thought they were brother and sister from the way they looked, taking a closer look at the girl, she was a dog-type beastkin and seemed to be a slave. I see, so that's why she's carrying the luggage.

But to make a small girl like that carry luggage, it feels awkward even though she's a slave.

Or maybe he's racist against beastkin? No, she's dressed properly.

The two gave an odd impression. At any rate, it's my job.

"Halt! What business do you have in Sia!"

When I called out, the two obediently stopped.

"Ah, sorry. I'm from the country. Do I need to do something to get inside?"

They didn't appear to intend to be hostile and break through.

I secretly activated a magic tool that detected lies. Gatekeepers have them to check whether there is any falsities given in conversations at the gates.

Though I could tell they were suspicious people even without it as a veteran gatekeeper, right now a big shot noble came from the capital. I was

told to use it so that there would be no mistakes. It couldn't be helped, that's the rule.

"... Answer the question. What business do you have in Sia?"

"Eeh, I set out from my old way of life to become an adventurer."

Well, that didn't appear to be a lie. Hearing success stories and aspiring to become an adventurer, that was something youths would choose over working and get rich quick. Well, it wasn't actually that easy.

"Hmm... Is that a slave? Is it yours?"

"That's right, I picked it up by chance."

That also didn't seem to be a lie. Since he admitted possessing it as the master, it was unquestionable.

Since it appears that bandits have been rampant around here recently, it probably had an impact on stray slaves.

Its attire was good... I wonder if this guy doesn't treat it as a slave?

"Why did you come at this time?"

"Well, since knights seem to have come by and subjugate some bandits the other day, I thought it'd be a safer journey. I didn't really come here to do anything. Peace is good... Wait, perhaps, is there something wrong with the time right now? Sorry, a countryman like me doesn't know of things like that."

Hmph, wasn't a lie. Seems he doesn't know any detailed information.

I don't mind if there's a little lie for some situations, but he really was an honest guy that didn't lie at all.

"Oh, I see. Sorry then... Right now, some higher ups came. They are related to those knights you talked about before."

"So that's it then? Work must be hard. Then, can I pass? Or do I need something?"

Oh, that's not a gatekeeper's job.

I helped him very business-like. When I mentioned money, he seemed to

be worried about how much he had on him.

I promptly informed him about guide services.

That is, I could work as a cheap guide until he gets an ID.

I noticed it earlier, but this beastkin slave is different from the slaves I usually see. She seems to follow him happily.

She appeared to be willingly carrying the luggage. She's probably treated very well.

She was happy when the man patted her head... Hmm, I understand a bit better now.

For now, it looks like he's not a bad guy. And so, I allowed him to pass through the gate and guided him to the adventurer guild personally.

On the way, their attentions seemed to be attracted by a cart selling skewers, it was a bit heartwarming to see.

Adventurers would make this town their base when registering here. If that's what happens, I'm likely to meet them again. It might be good to treat them to skewers at that time.

Heading into the Adventurer's Guild, we immediately went to the counter.

Though they said they could write for him if needed, he said it was no problem and asked the slave to.

Well, surprisingly, the slave was called [Meat].

Th-that's... Meat, umm, if I recall correctly, isn't that the name for a sex slave? If anything, it's closer to a derogatory term.

That means, this man... with a child like that... he has 'that' hobby? Ah, so that's why she's dressed so good. It finally makes sense.

... Well, how the slave is treated has nothing to do with me.

However, to put her name as Meat on the registration form would definitely... even if she is freed from slavery, the beastkin girl's name would remain as Meat from now on.

Though registered names could be changed, it was fundamentally

something that wouldn't change until death. It took even more money than when you register.

But purposely spending more of the little money they had on hand... would be heresy. Maybe I was hasty letting them inside the gates?

Though she seemed to look at him with love, shouldn't she be filled with some kind of hatred instead?

... However, she strangely seemed to be glad, so I guess it's not my place to meddle.

The guild receptionist muttered, [Such an adorable child... kuh, I have to protect her], though...

Yep, that's it, I'm unrelated. Since I confirmed they had Guild Cards, I am now unrelated to them!

Hmmm, so he's Kehma huh, alriiiiight alright, I'm done here, I'm unrelated.

With that, I decided to promptly return to the gate.

Well, it's my job after all.

Because I'm a veteran guard! Hahaha!

Chapter 20 - Adventurer's Guild and the First Commission

In the Adventurer's Guild, we paid money -> received cards -> got an explanation, isn't that order backwards? I said as much.

Why would they bother to explain to broke people? Was what they said. Harsh.

"... No, did we just get the cards first since Gatekeeper-san was with us? That way, after the inspection, if we were no good our Guild Cards would be seized and we'd be expelled from town by the guild's staff."

"Scary."

"Ah, sorry, but I'm not going to return the money."

"That's a bit more scary. You cheapskate!"

"Has the inspection started already?"

"Hahaha, just kidding. It's natural treatment for outsiders, you know."

"I understand that above all."

Come on, it's just troublesome if you do that.

By the way, we're in a different room now. Looks like they explain while heading to the inspection.

They were probably going to use lie detecting magic tools.

I'll have to answer carefully.

"Then some questions... your hometown?"

"Ah, well, I can't answer that. I don't really know."

"... Me too."

I wonder how they'd say Japan in this world. Another world...?

"... What are you good at? It doesn't affect what class you want. Please say

if you have any battle experience or things like that.”

“I’ve never been in a fight, I hope to be a rear guard. Oh, how can I become a mage?”

“I can work using my body. I’m even okay being beaten.”

Meat-san? Why do you look a bit delighted by saying you want to be beaten?

I was told that to practice to become a mage I’d need to buy scrolls from magic shops.

“Why do you want to be adventurers?”

“To improve my life.”

“Because Goshujin-sama told me.”

I just want to sleep in safety, I’m not aiming at getting rich...

“... That was very helpful. Well, then for criminal backgrounds, do you have anything you can’t discuss? With that, are those your real names? If those are pseudonyms, please tell me your real names.”

“It is my real name. As for something I can’t talk about... hmmm... ah, did you want to hear about my fetish?”

“I don’t know it since I can’t remember.”

Still, she stared at me with eyes that seemed to say it was alright and that she was looking at something dirty.

Though it looks like I dodged the subject, I wonder if my glance wandering under the table at her feet (leather boots) was exposed...

M-maybe the magic tool understood what I was thinking about!? Maybe I can’t deal with it after all!?

“... What do you think of little girls? Please answer honestly.”

“Eh...? They’re cute, I guess?”

“I won’t lose.”

Huh? I don’t understand the intention of that question. This isn’t time to

pick up men, Receptionist-san with beautiful breasts. I wonder if my response was the correct answer?

And Meat, why did you say you won't lose? Ah, is it something about Rokuko? Did something happen?

"... Alright, thank you very much... As for any problems... there doesn't seem to be any, congratulations. With this you're clear and ready to become an adventurer."

"Thank you."

"Continuing on, I will explain the guild."

The heck, that's an amazing objection.

But we passed since there weren't any problems.

According to her explanation, the guild has a rank system with S at the top, continuing from A to G after that. It seems that people like us who have no experience start at G-Rank. Ranking up is done by commission achievement points and a guild inspection.

She informed us that since commissions are put on the bulletin board, we only need to bring one that matches our rank to the counter.

(Looks like the price for those who can't read is negotiable. Doesn't matter to us though.)

That and that the Adventurer's Guild wouldn't help at all if we commit a crime. The Guild Card would be invalidated and confiscated, as well as the reward being taken away.

"I see, I get it. Oh, should I watch out for anything else while staying in town?"

"... It's better to keep away from the slum outside of the south gate. There, even though they're slaves, they get treated harshly."

Woah. So the slaves there get treated more like slaves?

Though I feel awkward treating Meat roughly... she's a child after all.

"Thanks for the advice..."

I wouldn't follow it, but I didn't tell her that.

From her glare, even if I didn't say it she probably understood that though.

*

There were no template-like events to welcome newcomers. Adventurers that were drinking? Dead drunk and asleep. It's good they aren't making trouble.

Well then, let's check out the commissions immediately.

I looked for information about [Dungeons] and the [Ordinary Cave].

... Oh, there it is, "Dungeon [Ordinary Cave]'s Survey Reward: 1 Silver Coins, 2 People Minimum"... eh, F or higher huh. What now? We can't accept it if it's not G.

We need to increase our rank. Looks like it'll take some time... ah, nope. All of a sudden it's become tiresome. I wanna sleep...

"Meat, are there any commissions we can take at G-Rank? Something easy if possible."

"Hmm... ah. What about this one?"

The request Meat found was, "Toilet Cleaning, Reward: 8 Copper Coins, Rank-N/A, 1 Person Minimum".

Ah, yeah. There it is. I wouldn't have understood if it said something like herb collecting.

Huh? But isn't it fine to use use [Cleanup]? Thinking that, I took it to the counter to ask about it.

"... Oh, yes. The commission wants cleaning since [Cleanup] didn't work. Will you do it?"

"Please give me a moment to think about it."

That's just filthy... is what I was thinking, when Meat secretly spoke to me.

"It'll be fine if it's Goshujin-sama's [Cleanup]. It'll even be more clean than usual."

“Eh, you think so?”

“Goshujin-sama’s bubbles are amazing. It’s alright. If that doesn’t work I’ll clean it.”

Is that so? Though the image is important for magic, was there that much of a difference?

... Well, I’ll give it a go since Meat said she’ll clean it if it doesn’t work.

“Excuse me, we’ll do this one.”

“... .. Alright, you have accepted it. The location is the west industrial zone’s blacksmith, don’t get lost. Don’t forget to have the client sign the commission ticket after you have finished.”

The heck, did I do something to Receptionist-san?

She was looking at me with eyes like she saw something incredibly filthy. Even her words were sharp.

Is that it? That I was going to treat Meat more like a slave after all?

At any rate, we went to deal with the commission since we accepted it.

Though the map she showed me was quickly taken back, I didn’t have any problems since I could look at the menu and arrived at the west industrial zone.

It’s invisible to Meat, so I figured other people couldn’t see it. It’d be better to not stand out in public, it would probably look suspicious for a person to look around at nothing in front of them.

The walking that I’d left to the Clothes Golem stopped abruptly. Looks like we arrived at our destination. It’s good we didn’t get lost.

I decided to finish it quickly and pass the commission ticket to the client. The client was a man that felt like an experienced and taciturn artisan.

“... A slave huh. That mean you’ll have the slave there do the cleaning? Pretty small though...”

“I’ll take a look at it first. We more or less accepted the commission together after all.”

“... That so? Over here then.”

Peeking my head into the restroom, it was filled with the unique stench of human waste. Blegh, I feel nauseous.

“It’s fine to vomit, but clean it up yourself. I hired you to clean the stains.”

“... Ah, yeah.”

“Call for me when you’re done.”

The client left quickly. That’s convenient.

“... You okay, Meat?”

“I’m used to this.”

What kind of place were you in? Thinking that, I tried out using [Cleanup].

I specifically pictured bleaching things with a chlorinated detergent.

“[Cleanup]”

The entire restroom was covered in a froth of bubbles. After the restroom’s walls and floor were covered, it wrapped the toilet in bubbles before disappearing. It’d become completely clean, even having a faint scent of chlorine and lavender drift through the air. It felt like a real restroom after being cleaned.

... Oh, the brown porcelain was originally white. The rest of the restroom was the same.

“Goshujin-sama is amazing.”

“Oh, nice.”

However, it was over in an instant... Hmm, since I don’t want to become a famous adventurer, this stands out too much in various ways. Maybe I’ll kill time with a little nap?

“Alright. Well then, Meat. Please pretend to clean the restroom. I’ll go do a bit of information gathering. If someone comes say I’m in the middle of cleaning... That’s right, about one hour should be fine. The Clock Golem you have, does it have enough mana? ... Ah, please watch the clock without

letting anyone see.”

“Y-yes... one hour, then.”

“I’ll leave it to you if someone comes before I return. If no one comes before an hour’s up, get the commission end signature and wait for me.”

“U-understood.”

I left Meat in the restroom and secretly went outside.

... Even though it’s clean now, it’s still weird to sleep in a restroom after all.

Chapter 21 - The First Commission

Completion?

I, who had quietly left without Meat, went walking towards the commercial district looking for a place to take a nap.

Though it wasn't very far from the industrial district, it was near the main street. It had stalls too... Oh, now that I think about it there were stalls with grilled meat skewers. Maybe I should buy a present for Meat?

Since I said that I would go and gather information, it'd probably be better to investigate a little bit as an excuse. That's right, it might be a good place to gather information while taking a comfortable nap.

However, looks like there's various kinds of shops. They even sell bread... yep, seems hard. I remember the bandits all having their eyes set on the melon bread.

Looks like you can buy about three loafs of the hard bread for two copper.

Which reminds me, I can use the menu even though I'm not in the dungeon. I wonder if I can spend DP?

Maybe I could use it to deal with commissions... ah, though I can look through the DP catalog, looks like I can't buy anything. Unfortunate.

Well, it might be interesting to compare the actual price of things with their DP cost.

"... Wait, I was looking for a place to take a nap."

I strayed from my original goal and started gathering information.

Seems like the fantastical environment floating through this alternate world's town ticked my instincts as a man.

However, there's a lot of buildings. I can't find a place to head to for a nap.

Giving up finding a place by myself, I decided asking a local about it would be faster.

I immediately went into what looked like a well-informed shop to get information... hmm, is this a greengrocer? The greengrocer even looks like it sold things at an affordable price, the “Listen for a bit after buying this” tactic seemed just right here.

I want a particularly affordable one, probably an apple... yep, it's an apple. Though it was slightly smaller than the apples I know, there's also melons in this world, so there's probably apples.

“Hey, old man, how much for this?”

“Ah, that's three copper coins for two.”

“Then I'll buy 'em. Two... ah, no bag, where's a good place to eat these?”

“Ah. I don't care where you eat it, but stay a bit away. Standing in front of the shop would be a hindrance to business after all.”

I passed three copper coins to the greengrocer old man and took the apples. I moved a bit to the side and sank my teeth into an apple.

... Sour!

“Wow... this is... pretty sour.”

“Is that so? Though I think that's usual for this year's apples?”

“Mm, no, I'm not calling you stingy, it's just the first time I've eaten an apple here and was surprised. Don't scowl at me. I'm not from here.”

“Ah, so that's it. You a traveler, lad?”

“Adventurer. I just came to this town today... Oh, there's a sweetness inside the sour, it's a good taste.”

“I get it lad.”

When I said it was pretty sour he scowled at me, but immediately let up his vigilance. Felt good.

It really is sour, but it's not that bad eating it while thinking it's that kind of thing.

“Yeah, I've heard sour apples go well with sugar, turning into something like a pastry.”

“Heeh, knowledgeable huh. Though since sugar is valuable around here, this apple alone is plenty sweet.”

Heeh, I obtained pretty good information by chance... Should I make sugar with the dungeon? Adventurers would be attracted to the sugar like ants... no, it'd probably be fine even if adventurers didn't do that. I'll make a mental note of that.

“That so? Right, can you tell me if you know about a good place to take a nap or something?”

“Hahaha! You're interesting to listen to lad! Let's see, if you want to take a nap, I think the park in the central district would be good?”

“Oh, so there's a park. That sounds like a good place for a nap.”

“Ah, but watch out for people getting too close to your wallet while you sleep yeah? You should buy fruits from me if you have money inside it!”

“Yeah, I'll be careful. I'll buy from you again if I'm ever in the neighborhood.”

“Thanks for your patronage!”

Information gathering was going quite pleasantly.

By the way, if I wanted to take an apple out with DP, it was listed in the food category as ten apples for 5 DP.

Then again, the apples that come out would probably be the sweet apples that I'm used to instead of these... no, since I can choose hard bread in the bread assortment, I could probably choose the kind of apple too.

Well, central part huh... I wonder if there's a sunny place with just enough shade?

I bit into the other apple and headed to the park... Hmm, yep, this is sour.

*

I was able to nap in the central park without anything happening.

Though I ordered the Clothes Golem to repel people that might try to obstruct my nap just in case, it looks like that didn't happen this time. But I

slept quite well, about two hours.

... Crap, I slept too long. I wonder if Meat is angry.

As for information, I only obtained two things. “Apples here are sour, sugar is valuable” and “The central park is great for a nap”. Well even though I immediately had an idea, I might have to face my honor.

I rushed to the blacksmith where the commission to clean the restroom was in a bit of a run.

Since I didn’t make an appearance of leaving, I secretly entered the restroom.

“Goshujin-sama, you’re back?”

“Yeah, I gathered enough information. How was it here?”

“I turned him away just one time. Though he came again after that, I said we were done since it had been an hour. I got his signature and was waiting for Goshujin-sama.”

Ah, now that I think about it I didn’t say where to wait... yep, I’m really sorry.

“You didn’t have to wait in the toilet and could have been on a table or something you know?”

“S-sorry. Will you punish me?”

Meat apologized while hanging her head down and fidgeting.

No, I didn’t say you did something bad so why would I punish you?

I patted Meat’s head as gently as possible. Her soft hair was pleasant to the touch. Her dog ears were soft.

“Ahh...”

Meat made a blank look, making me somewhat shy after a short time of continuing to stroke her.

Was she overcome with emotion from being stroked? She followed along while hugging my right arm even though she usually restrained herself. What a cute child.

I lead Meat out of the restroom to show her her reward.

“... Are you finished?”

I was talking to the client after leaving the restroom.

“Hmm? Yeah. It’s finished.”

“That so... little miss, come to me when this guy, I won’t be as bad.”

“Don’t want to.”

What is this old guy talking about so suddenly with a serious face? Though I thought that, Meat refused him immediately.

... He’s glaring at me for some reason though.

Aren’t you liked a lot, Meat? Just what happened while I took that nap?

“... I see. However, you don’t know what it means to be an adventurer. Keep that in mind.”

“Goshujin-sama, let’s go.”

“O-okay.”

Meanwhile, Meat wasn’t completely ignored anymore. Seriously, what happened.

But really, I don’t know what it means to be a Dungeon Master. Though I don’t want to die, there is always a possibility of dying. I can just bring the possibility as close to nothing as I can.

Well, I might need to lay a bit of groundwork in case I die.

I decided to ask the client something.

“... If I die and she’s put out on the streets, if you want to, could you come along and help her?”

“Hmph, I’d help the little miss even if you didn’t say anything... she’s too good a child for someone like you.”

“Then I’ll entrust it to you. Well, I don’t plan on dropping dead so easily.”

The old artisan had a surprised look on and nodded after thinking for a moment. As I thought, looks like he isn’t a bad guy.

Though I called him old, he doesn't seem like he'll be kicking the bucket anytime soon.

I just met him and was asking something of a client in addition, but I felt a bit relieved.

“... Am I, being, thrown away...?”

Hearing such a conversation, Meat looked like she had just watched her pet be run over by a car.

“What are you saying, I'm not going to throw you away.”

For now, it looked like she improved after I tousled her hair since she looked lively.

Chapter 22 - For Now, One Night

It was already late by the time we returned to the Adventurer's Guild.

"... Yes, congratulations on completing the commission. Here is the reward of eight copper coins."

The Receptionist-san who was glaring at me went beyond being curt.

Hmph, why is she glaring at me so much even though I don't treat Meat badly.

"With that, there is an additional one copper coin to the young lady as a special reward. It's from the client to pass directly to the young lady, along with a message. Here."

"Heeh, that's good, Meat."

"Y-yes."

Meat took the copper coin held over the counter.

Since Meat is small, Receptionist-san leaned a considerable amount to pass it.

"... Goshujin-sama, here."

And then immediately presented it to me after receiving it.

... No, isn't it better to keep it?

"... Use it however you want to."

"H-here."

She stubbornly held it out to me... it would be a nuisance to be in front of the counter. Reluctantly, I accepted it. I'll give it back to Meat as pocket money after this.

"Alright, thanks."

"Nn...♪"

Accepting the copper coin, I patted her head. Meat really looked happy. Her dog tail was wagging back and forth.

Y-yeah, Receptionist-san, don't glare at me. It stings... ah, right.

"I want to go to an inn around here, is there a good place?"

"You can reserve a bed with four copper coins if you go to the south gate's slums, but it's safety isn't guaranteed... ah, if you want you could give the young lady to me to look after? It's fine even for free."

"No, I'll refrain from that..."

W-what is this receptionist plotting? Or rather isn't she just trying to get closer?

And what's with the feeling she'll do something to Meat!? Perhaps, she's going to do something terrible to Meat while looking after her for one night?

Kuh, I don't know what it is but I should be vigilant around this Receptionist-san.

"... One night, something that we can sleep safely in with around forty copper coins, good rice is fine."

"Then around here, the [Sleeping Songbird Pavilion] is fine. One night and one meal is thirty-five copper coins."

They seemed like pretty good terms. Receptionist-san was doing her job as a receptionist well.

I decided to head there right after learning the area from looking at a map.

Though normal adventurers with a daily income of eight copper coins per day couldn't stay there, it was trivial with my other occupation as a Dungeon Master. Well, my funds are in a tight spot though.

... Right, I'll earn a bit more from tomorrow onward. I only worked a small bit since we came to the town and register at the guild today after all... oh, but the job was finished so easily.

I wonder if it's impossible to get safety and money without working...

Even if I turned the dungeon into a base, it'd be difficult to make trips

there since it's half a day away running at full speed. I think it'd be about a day walking.

No matter what we'd need to stay a night... well, here's the [Sleeping Songbird Pavilion].

It's a nice wooden inn. Thanks for the recommendation, Receptionist-san. I don't know what you're plotting, though.

When I opened the door, a woman was at the reception desk.

"Excuse me, I was referred here by the Adventurer's Guild, do you have any empty rooms?"

"Hmm? Yeah, we do. Referred by the guild huh? So you're a guest adventurer then? It's thirty-five copper coins for a night with one meal, but... hmm? That's a child slave huh. What about the slave? It's five copper to rent a shed."

"Ah, this one wants to sleep in the same room as me... is there an extra fee?"

"... We do not charge extra for something like that. How about the slave's meal? It's two copper."

"That's fine then. I'll reserve a room for a night."

I tried to hand her seven copper and a silver coin since I didn't have enough copper coins, though when I realized the change would be copper coins I just gave her a silver coin.

The change was sixty-three copper coins... oi, counting is tiresome. I was thinking that, but she used a tool that looked like a coin case to count them out in groups of ten, so it wasn't that bothersome. It's a pretty convenient tool, huh. However, she took out the thirty-seven from the one hundred that came out. The process was a bit fancy.

"One night's stay then. Ah, do you want the meal brought to your room?"

"If possible."

"Alright, that's fine then... oh yeah, I'd appreciate it if you used [Cleanup] on the sheets before leaving the room. Well then, here's the key. Your room

number is seven, it's on the first floor."

I accepted the key and headed towards the room.

When I opened the door with a '7' written on it using the key, the inside really did look like an inn.

As for the window... yeah, it didn't have glass and instead used wooden boards. It looked like a double hinged door. Speaking of which, I wonder if there's glass in this world? I get the feeling the Water Golem's value is increasing.

Light magic tools were set up for lighting. I was told putting a magic stone into the switch to turn it on was this inn's special feature. It seems that it's fine whether you use the magic stones sold by the inn or your own.

Additionally, you could use your own magical power even if you don't have a magic stone... though you'd need to keep filling it up.

By the way, though I'd heard this for the first time, when magic stones are used up and worn out it seems that they disappear. It seems they last longer when periodically filled with magical power.

Then comes the crucial bed, but it just felt like thin sheets on a wooden frame. It was pretty hard. Rather, it was more like a plank.

It was more or less just some thin sheets stacked on each other, just a little better than a park bench.

I think the [Futon] for 5 DP is superior bedding compared to this. It might actually be better.

"I will sleep on the floor, right?"

"No, we'll sleep together. It's cold."

I want to eat the meal and lie down as soon as possible... The muscle pain from earlier hurts.

I might not be able to move tomorrow without being forcibly moved by the Clothes Golem...

Thinking that, I used [Cleanup] on myself and Meat while waiting for the

meal.

“Right, here’s your share of today’s reward.”

I took out five copper coins, handing it to Meat. It was an equal split plus her extra.

“I, I can’t accept that! I didn’t do anything.”

“Didn’t Meat find the commission and tell me it was possible with my [Cleanup]? With that, it’s fine.”

“B-but...”

“Those roasted meat skewers were just five copper each huh... I want to eat them with Meat~”

“... I-I’ll accept it.”

Probably since I mentioned the skewers, I heard the sound of stomach rumbling.

Not mine. Meat’s.

... Now that I think about it, she hasn’t eaten anything since we came to Sia huh? Just breakfast.

I feel a bit guilty from just me eating those apples.

After a while, someone from the inn brought our meal to the room.

Mine was two loafs of bread with a vegetable soup, while Meat’s was just two loafs of bread. I see, so that’s the difference?

I shared half of my vegetable soup with Meat and forced the hard bread into my mouth.

The vegetable soup was quite good. Yep. It was bland, but it left the feeling of a vegetable’s umami.

*

Now, we left the room after one night. My body felt rigid and creaked, but the muscle pain wasn’t that bad. I’m saved.

This time Meat was even able to be used as a hug pillow without peeing.

Going to the restroom before sleeping is important after all. She tried to take off her clothes when we were laying down, but I stopped her.

I remembered that they asked us to use [Cleanup] on the sheets before leaving, so I cleaned them quickly. I was getting used to [Cleanup]... it was probably amusing seeing the aftermath of being thoughtless in a room being turned spotless. W-well, it should be fine being this clean.

“Meat, do you have everything?”

“I, have it all.”

“Alright, then instead of getting breakfast let’s go buy something from a stall.”

“Y-yes.”

I returned the key to the woman, leaving the inn.

It was a typical affordable inn... also the result of gathering information.

Now that I think about it, I wonder if Rokuko’s fine being by herself in the dungeon... she’s probably alright. She was alone before I arrived after all.

I’m gradually starting to miss the dungeon’s Master Room.

Let’s hurry up and collect more profitable information and head back...

Chapter 23 - A Human Town for the First Time, Day Two

Buying a ham sandwich for breakfast, we went to the Adventurer's Guild in the morning.

The Adventurer's Guild was considerably packed this early in the morning.

When I looked, it appeared they were struggling for the commissions being posted on the bulletin board.

... Yep, don't want to get mixed in with that...

"Goshujin-sama."

As though to tell me to leave it to her, Meat's gaze was sparkling.

... Honestly, I'm a bit hesitant to have a young kid go into a place like that, but...

"Alright, go get a commission that looks fine!"

"Yes!"

Meat plunged into the bustle of people. Her small body was gulped up by them and disappeared surprisingly quickly...

After a while, she came back holding two commission tickets in her mouth.

I patted her head gently while calling her a good girl. Meat's body writhed in joy.

She really does look like a dog in every respect.

Well, as for the commissions she took... "Deliver 10 Items, Reward: 10 Copper Coins, G-Rank Minimum, 1 Person Minimum, Note: Deliver by the end of the day" and "Rabbit Subjugation, Reward: Purchase Each Meat for 10 Copper, Rank-G Minimum, 1 Person Minimum, Note: 3 Minimum, 10 Max. Fresh meat only".

I see, I can be a deliveryman with the Clothes Golem and a map, and feel

like I should be able to subjugate rabbits. These should be fine. I immediately went to the counter with the commission tickets.

“... You’re going to be a deliveryman after having just come to the town yesterday? I don’t recommend it.”

... Oh, it’s you again. The same Receptionist-san as yesterday was at the counter.

“There shouldn’t be a problem if I properly get the address.”

“As far as taking it to a local, wouldn’t it be faster for them to deliver the letter themselves?”

“After learning the address, I wouldn’t go that far.”

“Moreover, taking a subjugation-type commission as well? That’s reckless.”

“Reckless?”

“Yes, reckless. It’s fine to be confident, particularly for a rabbit commission, but these are intended to be used for the skewer stall’s butcher. The meat can’t be made into a mess by amateur swordsmanship and need to be pristine, how would you even take them down?”

“Well, I’ll leave it to my partner.”

Meat was honestly a strong fighter.

“... Furthermore, though I thought I’d explained it when establishing your Guild Card, you will be fined if you can’t complete a commission, as well as punished. Is that fine?”

“Yeah, I don’t mind.”

Sorry, I wasn’t listening.

At an rate, I submitted mine and Meat’s Guild Cards and accepted the commission.

“... It has been accepted. Be careful. Oh, please go around back to receive the things for the delivery commission from the responsible party.”

“Yeah, thanks.”

Receptionist-san was scowling profusely, but other than being being belligerent she did her job diligently and properly gave advice. She's probably a capable person. She also might be the kind of person to easily misunderstand things.

"Alright, then let's go, Meat."

"Yes!"

Meat and I left the counter, going around back to do the delivery commission first.

*

Dividing the labor for the delivery commission between us, we finished quickly.

... I didn't run, considering my leg's muscle pains, slowly delivering three of the cases to relatively close places. Meat quickly handled the other seven. Even though the Clothes Golem's navigation compensated, I couldn't help praising her excellence. The cuteness of her tail wagging back and forth quickly while I pat her healed me.

We finished with still some of the morning left over. With this we can probably get the rabbits.

Incidentally, I wonder where we're supposed to hunt the rabbits. Crap, I don't know about that at all.

For the time being, let's try and ask the client.

The client was standing at the grilled skewer stall.

The smell of the meat as the glistening oil dripped from it while being grilled drifted through the air. My mouth started drooling on reflex, I had to swallow it back.

"Oh, are you the adventurer that took the rabbit meat commission? Then, the meat? Doesn't look like you have it though."

"Ah, no, I still have to head there."

"That so? Since the meat is for next week, it needs to be hunted today. I'll

be roasting meat here until the evening. Then, was there something you needed?"

Just then, a small noise came from a cute stomach. It wasn't mine of course, it was Meat's.

But come to think of it, it was lunchtime huh.

"... Right, how about we get two skewers first? Then, please tell me where we can hunt the rabbits."

"Sure. Two for ten copper... yep, that's it. If you're looking for rabbits, they're outside town. The west gate would work, in the forest by the Tsuia Mountain, a bit on the side facing us... ah, bring them back intact if you aren't confident in dismantling them."

"I see, thank you. Then, we're off."

I accepted the skewers, passing one to Meat.

In return, Meat tried to pass me five copper. I didn't accept them, though.

"It was just a necessary expense for us to get information, don't worry about it. Besides, it's a master's duty to feed their slaves. So, go ahead and eat."

"... Umm, then what do I..."

"Ah, when Meat finds something she wants to buy, it's fine to buy it. Save for something you want."

"Umm... that's... yes."

Meat put the copper coins away in the small bag she used as a substitute for a purse. She then bit into the meat skewer.

... Yep, that's it, it doesn't taste bad. It doesn't taste bad, but it's a bit smelly, compared to a hamburger the taste is a bit thin. Her face said something like that.

*

When I showed the commission ticket to the gatekeeper at the west gate, we were able to leave without paying the toll.

Then while heading to the forest, we saw the first rabbit.

“Kya?”

It was kind of... innocently cute. The small animal's red eyes were cute. It was fluffy and nomming on the grass.

However, in the next moment, Meat severed its head. With the Knife Golem in her right hand, she easily cut through it with vibration mode.

“It's meat.”

“Y-yeah. Well done, excellent.”

This child has no mercy.

The rabbit corpse's legs were somewhat bloody from the neck that still pulsed blood. It was thrown into a leather bag after losing the rest of its blood. She also threw the severed head in while she was at it.

I, with my broken heart, probably wouldn't have been able to achieve this without Meat... wonder if I'm feeling guilty over those adventurers dying in the dungeon...

Well, I can at least hit a rabbit on the head though. The meat I've always eaten is meat that someone's killed, so when I eat it I'm also assisting that. In that case, there's no reason to not kill them here seeing as how I eat meat.

Assisted by the Blade Golem and Clothes Golem, I could cleanly cut through it.

Though a little of the blood got on me, I quickly used [Cleanup] to get clean.

... Wait, come to think of it none of the blood has gotten on Meat-san huh, I seriously respect her.

We continued that until we had ten rabbits to bring to the client.

The breakdown? Eight for Meat, two for me, so what? Meat could instantly decapitate them after all.

I held out one I found to her, pinning them down with both hands so they couldn't run away.

I got the other one myself (with the Golems' assistance).

Wouldn't Meat have been fine by herself...?

"Heeh, you're... An-chan, you look lanky, but you have a good arm."

Sorry, those are the results of this child here.

My duty was to hold rabbits by the legs while Meat-sensei hunted for them one by one, I just had to throw them in the bag after all the blood drained. Meat-sensei went into the forest alone, I just diligently waited and did nothing outside while they drained.

At any rate, the client gave us a high evaluation. Though they were sitting in the bag, thanks to draining the blood the fur was in good condition. Except for one of them, he purchased them all for the maximum price of ten copper coins, ninety-seven copper... since most of them were in good condition, he gave us a bonus, making our income one silver.

Eh? Whose went for seven? That's right, it's the one I got on my own. It was pretty bad, the body was cut into two you know?

Chapter 24 - Ranking Up and the Guild Head's Story

After all that, we headed back to the Adventurer's Guild with the commission tickets. Suitably, it was slowly beginning to become dark outside.

Do most people finish their business by evening? It looked like there were less people than yesterday.

"... Well, how did you do? Was it impossible after all?"

Then there was this Receptionist-san. Was that it? Remembering the newcomers' faces on the second day of being registered, I wonder if I should care?

"No, we properly finished. Here."

"... .. You certainly did. More so, with a high evaluation...?"

Receptionist-san's face knit in a frown.

"Congratulations, you can rank up. Do you wish to rank up?"

"Eh-?"

Ranking up... that means going to Rank-F from Rank-G, I guess.

"The requirement for ranking up from G to F is to do ten commissions, of which subjugation commissions count twice. In the case of high evaluations, it counts twice yet again... Additionally, the rabbit subjugation asked for three or more, thus was counted as a completed request for every three animals... Therefore, with those, you have met the rank-up requirements... Do you wish to rank-up?"

"Ah, yeah."

"Then, your Guild Card please. Sorry for the inconvenience."

When Meat and I handed over our Guild Cards, Receptionist-san withdrew

to the back room.

... Ranking up on the second day of being registered, I wonder if we're standing out? Though I instinctively wanted to rank up, I wonder if that was a bad choice.

No, if we get F-Rank we can accept the [Ordinary Cave] survey commission.

If we accept the survey commission, it wouldn't be strange to ask for more detailed information about the [Ordinary Cave].

While we waited on seats at a table, the Receptionist-san came back.

"Kehma-sama, and... Meat-sama. The Guild Head wished to interview you. This way, please."

Yep, she was definitely hesitant to address Meat with '-sama' just now. It felt like she did it because it was her job.

I wonder if she thinks she's my slave. Still, I think someone who can properly work and clearly address someone passes the wick.

However, I'm a bit afraid of the Guild Head zeroing in on us...

But I can't refuse, there's no choice but to go.

Following in behind Receptionist-san, we headed to the Guild Head's room... it had a splendid door with a plate saying "Guild Head's Room" at the top. When Receptionist-san knocked, a rough voice came from inside.

"Yeah, enter."

"Excuse me."

When the Receptionist-san entered the room, there was an old man with a stocky build. He had tanned skin stereotypical of an adventurer, a white mustache that felt confident and seasoned, and impressive eyes that shone like a carnivore's.

"I'm Gin, the Guild Head. I heard of you guys from Silia."

I guess Silia is Receptionist-san? That's the first time I heard her name.

The Guild Head stared at Meat, who was standing still.

“... Jou-chan, what do you think of An-chan here?”

“He’s Goshujin-sama.”

“... Is that so.”

Meat answered immediately.

The Guild Head patted Meat’s head and nodded slowly. Unlike his dignified appearance, his smile gave the impression of a good old man.

Then, he turned around towards Receptionist-san.

“Well, it’s fine then, oi, Silia. Do the rank up process properly.”

“Eh-, y-yes...”

“Silia and Jou-chan, please go outside. I want to talk to this fellow here for a bit.”

Being told to leave by the Guild Head, Silia left the room with Meat... I also want to leave though. Probably can’t, though...

“... Goshujin-sama.”

“It’s alright, wait outside.”

Meat nodded and went out.

Making sure the two left the room, the Guild Head opened his mouth.

“She seems to be quite attached.”

“Yeah. She’s cute.”

“... What relation do you have with that Jou-chan?”

It was like he was probing, no, he was definitely probing with that remark.

Crap, I’m getting thirsty.

“What, do you mean?”

“I wouldn’t find it off if you said you were siblings, for example.”

“We are beastkin and human, after all.”

“Could be step-siblings. So?”

Ah, that could definitely have been the case. I didn't think about that.

"Sorry, but she's a slave I picked up by chance."

"... How many years ago?"

"... If we're talking about years, it was just this year."

"She got that emotionally attached after a year!?"

"S-sorry, I should have said I picked her up last week."

"Oi, what did you use. What magic tool did you use, spit it out."

Hiii-, it became dangerous that quick-!?

"No... I picked her up when she was dying, so..."

"I-is that so...? No, I'm sorry. Actually, that child... might be my grandchild."

Oooooi, don't stop at that. I-I can't respond!

"There's a possibility you might also be my grandchild..."

Shock! I'm the grandson of another world's old man!?

No no no, no way. I should still have parents and a grandpa in Japan.

"Why do you say that?"

"My father is the hero of another world. My hair was black like yours way back when."

"Heeh... is that so?"

Indeed, from the feeling I got from that Kami-sama I vaguely remember, it didn't feel like his first time. It was more like he'd done it several times.

The important information he said was there was another world's hero.

"To put it briefly... My son's whereabouts became unknown ten years ago. Since then, when I see youths with black hair, I can't help but feel they may be my grandchild... that's all. In reality my grandchild may not have been born, but even if my son is no longer alive, I want to know his last moments... I would be thankful if you have any information to tell me."

“... If I get any information I will bring it to you.”

“Thank you.”

The Guild Head bowed lightly.

The tense atmosphere abruptly dissipated. I realized saliva had been accumulating in my mouth, so I wet my throat gulping it down. Haaaah, though I was going to die there.

“However... though I was thinking that when I heard the report about the Jou-chan from Silia... by no means did I think her master would also have black hair... Her name, Meat, did you give her it?”

“... I heard the name from her herself, so I left it as is.”

“Is that... so. It can't be helped if it's like that...”

The Guild Head drew out a long sigh.

“As a friendly connection between those who share the same black hair, let's accommodate each other a bit. If there's anything, let me know.”

*

Upon exiting from the Guild Head's room, Meat was waiting just beside the door.

The Guild Head's grandchild... a hero's great-grandchild, huh... I don't think that's impossible, considering her excellence.

However, I don't know to what extent the Guild Head's story was true. There wasn't any evidence after all. Even if he his father really was a hero from another world like he said, I'd like to see some evidence.

I mean, it's strange that it was because of my black hair. If they'd summoned a foreigner it could have been blonde hair, for it to be so conveniently Japanese... I don't even know if he was from the same world in the first place.

Hmm, I want a magic tool that can detect lies too...

Taking Meat back to the guild's lobby, Receptionist-san brought out our Guild Cards.

“Here they are, they have become F-Rank Guild Cards. Please confirm this.”

The cards we’d received did have F-Rank written on them. Having finished passing the cards over to us, Receptionist-san quickly returned to the counter.

Yep, with this we should finally be able to survey the [Ordinary Cave].

I immediately began to look for the “Dungeon [Ordinary Cave] Survey” commission ticket.

... Huh?

I couldn’t find it, did I overlook it...?

“Not, here...”

“It’s not here... Then, that means... someone else accepted it...”

Crap. What now?

Chapter 25 - Information on Dungeons

When did it get taken? This morning? Or maybe last night?

We might be able to overtake the adventurer if we go right now, though it would probably turn into a fight if we meet on the way... If that happened, could we win?

“... Goshujin-sama?”

I glanced at Meat. Come to think of it, does Meat even properly know I’m a Dungeon Master? I get the feeling I haven’t told her for sure.

... Alright, let’s calm down.

It should be alright with Rokuko. She should do what I told her to.

If it goes as expected from the information, there shouldn’t be any problems... The problem is that if my expectations and the Adventurer’s Guild’s information differ. If that’s how it is, I need to make sure what they know immediately.

... This isn’t the time to sleep. Haaah...

I went up to the counter. Silia-san, the usual receptionist, was there. Sorry about coming back so soon.

“I’d like to hear about a dungeon, is that fine?”

“There’s still plenty of time for the many adventurers to return, so until then... well, is there a problem with a dungeon? If it’s a standard dungeon, aren’t you unrelated until at least D-Rank?”

I see, so in other words the [Ordinary Cave] isn’t a standard dungeon, huh.

“Yeah, though that’s right, I was wondering about the [Ordinary Cave] Dungeon’s commission ticket. I don’t see it now, but I felt anxious about seeing F-Rank written on it.”

“Hmm... well, that was basically a commission for a rookie. The investigation of a newborn dungeon, a rarity in the world. It’ll take about

half a month.”

A newborn... was she? Maybe I should ask Rokuko about that when I get back.

“By the way, what kind of orders did they get this time?”

“I’m afraid I cannot answer that as it is against regulations.”

Yeaaaah.

“Other than that, you have been nominated for two commissions as the slave Ojou-san partner... though it is for cleaning toilets. Will you do it? It’s a G-Rank commission, but will you accept it?”

“... Please give me a bit to think about it.”

Toilet cleaning... should I be happy about the publicity? However, I can’t do it now.

“I want to hear about dungeons specifically, could you tell me about what kind of places they are?”

“... Dungeons are places with things such as monsters, traps, and treasures. To sum it up, dive into a dungeon if you are aiming to get rich in one go. Well, a person without common sense like you probably doesn’t even know something like that?”

“E-even I know that much you know?”

I didn’t know that. I’d probably dislike it, but I’d be thankful to learn this ‘common sense’ thing.

“Then, do you know about the dungeon bosses and the dungeon cores?”

“... Umm, the core, that’s the dungeon’s heart, right?”

“Yes, that’s right. A dungeon will begin to collapse the same time its core is destroyed. The dungeon boss is on the lowest floor of the dungeon, an existence that defends the core. There is also the theory that the dungeon core and the dungeon boss are one in the same, too... In the past, the demon king’s castle collapsed when the demon king was destroyed. There is a famous theory that the demon king’s castle was a dungeon, and that the

demon king was both the boss and core since the dungeon core was unable to be found. Well, I look at it as the demon king was just someone who was unwillingly forced into it and struggled in vain.”

The dungeon core, a demon king... I wonder if Rokuko gave off the feeling of a demon king?

When I tried to imagine it for a moment, I could only see Rokuko slipping on her cloak and falling over.

Yep, let's stop that, being a Demon King wouldn't suit Rokuko.

As for the dungeon collapsing without its dungeon core, I wonder if dungeon cores maintain the walls or something? However, things like dungeon bosses and dungeon masters, no idea what part of these terms are common sense...

“By the way, if you'd like to know more about dungeons, there is a study of dungeons in the education division, so it would be good for you to buy a book... the book is expensive, but I think the contents make the cost worth it.”

That's exactly the information I was looking for. A study of dungeons, so there was something like that huh?

That's valuable information. I absolutely want to get it.

“Well, the [Introduction to the Study of Dungeons] costs one gold, though.”

... I don't have enough on hand. If one copper is one hundred yen, isn't that a substantial one million yen?

I'll need to bring back some valuables after returning to the dungeon.

Yep, yet another reason why I need to head back to the dungeon.

“Is that all, then? More people have arrived.”

“Yeah, sorry. Thanks for your time.”

“No, it's my job to give advice to adventurers... that being the case, could you step aside?”

I have complete faith in Receptionist-san's commitment to her job. I don't

dislike her.

I lead Meat and walked away from the counter.

*

For the time being, even if I don't return to the [Ordinary Cave], the core won't be destroyed. The number of rooms have increased somewhat, but it seems the dungeon will be examined as a valuable research sample.

Well, if I just thought about DP, it was more economical to not return since DP for living expenses wouldn't be taken. I should probably stay here and just live in Sia as my base for now.

But I miss my [Futon]. Compared to laying down on a park bench or the self-alleged 'bed', which was like a wooden box covered in cloth, in the [Sleeping Songbird Pavilion], it was more comfortable by far.

I think that after getting the minimum information, I should temporarily return to the [Ordinary Cave]. It'd probably also be good to bring back something valuable. I want to get that book on dungeons... but I can't find something worth one gold coin easily.

... Eh, wait a sec. Maybe... could I possibly buy that book for DP?

When I looked at the DP catalog, there it was. Maybe it has more information that I want to know... let's see, [Introduction to the Study of Dungeons (100 DP)]... wait, 100 DP!?

One gold coin, worth one million yen, is 100 DP. Oi.

... I thought that [Copper Coin (5 DP)] was the conversion rate.

At any rate, looks like I should head back to the dungeon to get the [Introduction to the Study of Dungeons].

"Meat, we're going back to the dungeon right now."

It was already dark outside. If we don't hurry up it'll be impossible to leave the gate.

Leading Meat, I left for the west gate in a rush.

The guard who guided us through the town was at the west gate.

“Oh... what’s going on at a time like this? You know that the gate’s going to close in a little bit?”

“I have some business up in the mountains. I think it’ll probably take somewhere around two days though.”

“... Are you fine with being that lightly dressed? From the looks of it, you don’t have much luggage either.”

Oops, that reminds me. Forgot to prepare. Since I was thinking about this like I was returning to my base, I didn’t think that I’d really need much luggage. Normally, adventurers wouldn’t have a base up in the mountains.

Having said that, needing to make preparations every time I want to head back to the dungeon...

“We’re just bringing a bit since we can procure what we need on the way this time, so it’s fine. Isn’t being lightweight good for speed?”

“I see. In that case, there’s no problem.”

I thought it was a horrible excuse, but it looks like he was convinced by it.

Hmm, maybe I should use the south gate from now on? It’s better to not be acquainted with people like that, but it might be good to be able to easily leave the gates. Saying that staying in the slums save money... feels a bit strained somehow. If I spoke without lying, I think it’s like that since it’d be sleeping outside.

“So, is your business an herb collection commission or something? Your commission document?”

“No, it’s not a commission. I’ll be paying.”

“That so... The mountain is dangerous at night. You should be careful.”

“Yeah, thank you very much.”

I showed our Guild Cards, paying the toll fee of two copper coins, including Meat’s, and the gatekeeper let us out of the get.

Well then, let’s try and rush back.

I sprinted back at full speed with the Clothes Golem when we got out of

sight of the gatekeeper... I cried from the muscle pain in my legs.